
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCLAMATION

Children are California's future, and the investment made in their development today will greatly benefit their health and our state's prosperity tomorrow.

Early Start Month was created to raise awareness about early intervention services that make a difference in the lives of infants and toddlers who are at risk for or currently living with developmental delays or disabilities. California's early intervention system ensures that infants, toddlers and families receive support early enough to make a real difference.

Through the interagency system of coordinated services, early intervention promotes each child's growth and development. The programs assist families during the critical first months and years when family-centered interventions have the greatest impact on cognitive development, social adjustment and medical management. Our state has one of the largest, most diverse early intervention systems in the nation, providing services to thousands of families, infants and toddlers.

California's comprehensive efforts also seek to maximize each child's developmental potential through collaborative partnerships, statewide dissemination of public awareness tools, increased screening and technological advancements.

The intimate interaction between families and children with special needs is acknowledged as the most decisive relationship toward achieving success. The ultimate achievement is when collaboration and communication thrive between families and the professionals who serve them.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim March 2006 as "Early Start Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 10th day of March 2006.



Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Attest:

Bruce McPherson
SECRETARY OF STATE